

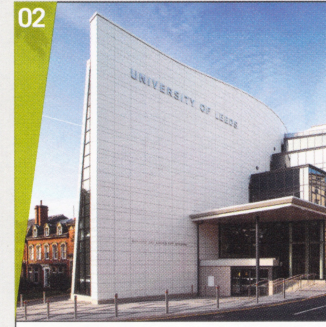
# Campus transformation

How the campus looks today, and planned developments



## Cars and stones

A clearly defined pedestrian route will replace the undefined area south of the EC Stoner building.



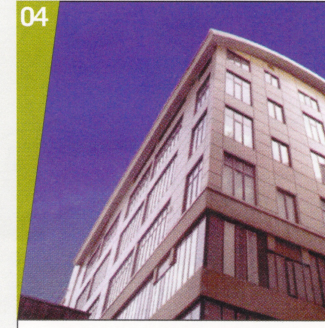
## Marjorie and Arnold Ziff building

Home to a one-stop-shop for student services.



## stage@leeds

The new home for the school of performance and cultural industries nestles behind the Union.



## Biological sciences

One of the buildings housing the faculty of biological sciences.



## Earth and Environment building

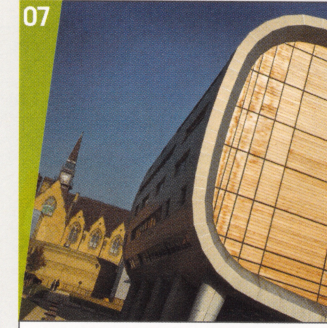
The £23 million Earth and Environment building. Now under construction.

- New/planned buildings
- Green space
- Gateways



## Law building (sketch)

- The school of law will cross Clarendon Road to a new home on the Western campus.
- State-of-the-art teaching and research space
- Moot court with latest technology
- Law and community centre for pro-bono work
- Staff numbers: 70
- Student numbers: 1100
- Cost: £14 million
- Complete: Autumn 2010



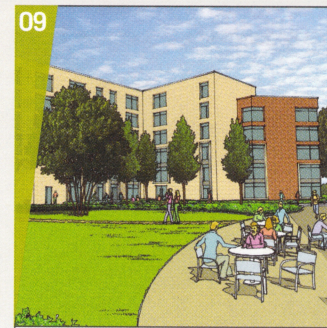
## Charles Thackrah building

Located on the western campus, home to the Enterprise and Innovation Office, and Health Sciences.



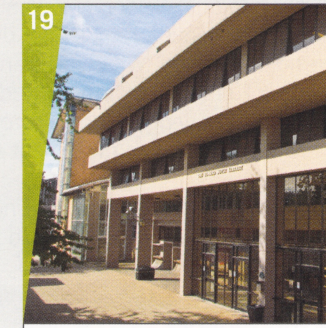
## Terrace houses

Development plans have left various roads intact.



## Charles Morris Hall (sketch)

- The two towers are staying, but a new building will replace Mary Ogilvie House.
- 459 en-suite bedrooms
- 23 rooms adapted for students with physical disabilities
- Refurbishment of other Charles Morris buildings
- Reception staffed 24 hours a day
- Bedroom safes, Wifi, telephones, data points and an IPTV facility
- Available for conferences out of term time
- Cost: £27.1 million
- Complete: Summer 2010



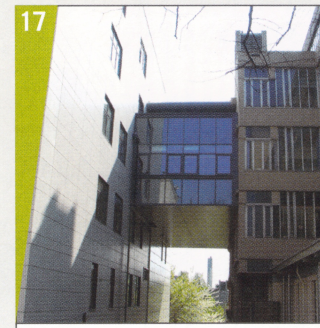
## Edward Boyle library

- Refurbishment and redevelopment of the University's main undergraduate library will provide what students need in an electronic age.
- Integrated access to print and digital resources
- More places for individual and group study
- Café and outdoor piazza for study breaks
- Houses undergraduate and reference collections
- Cost: £28 million
- Commencing: late 2010



## Swimming pool (sketch)

The £12.2 million swimming pool and fitness complex. Now under construction.



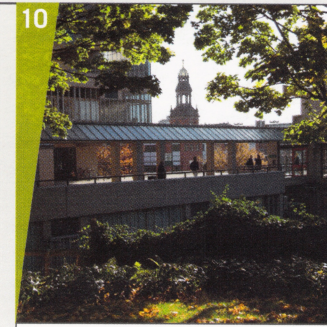
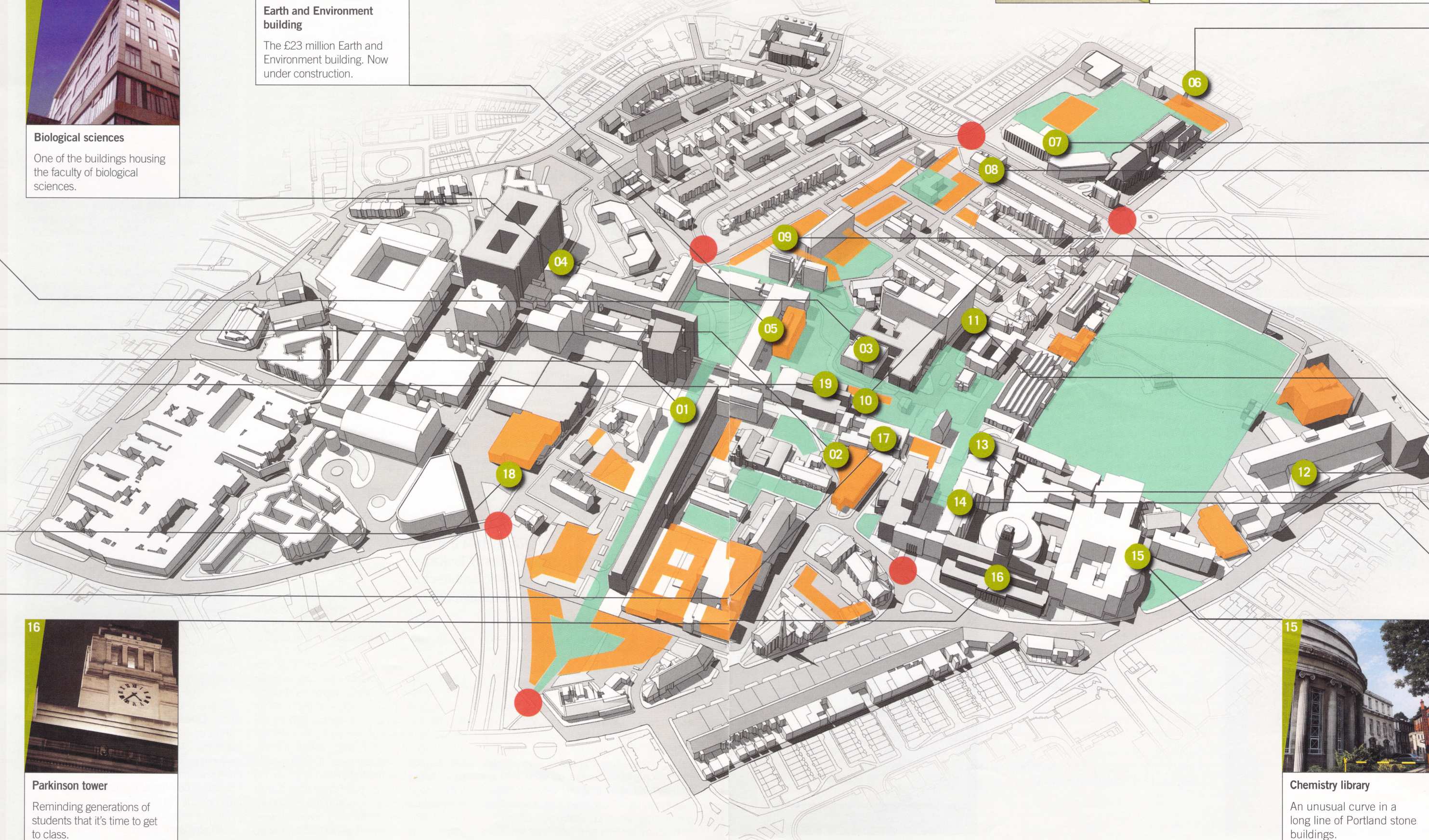
## Joining up

The Marjorie and Arnold Ziff building links up with the older social sciences building.



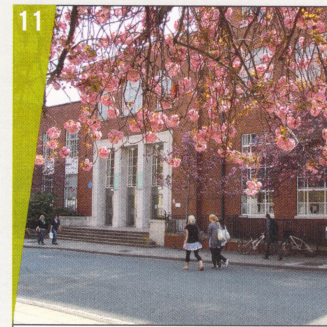
## Parkinson tower

Reminding generations of students that it's time to get to class.



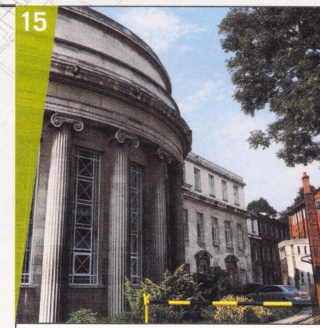
## Red route

Coming out on a higher level from the red route.



## Refectory entrance

Cherry trees outside the Union.



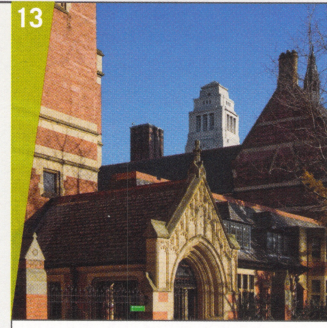
## Chemistry library

An unusual curve in a long line of Portland stone buildings.



## The Baines Wing

Home to the school of healthcare.



## Great Hall entrance

An iconic white tower announces itself at this 'red-brick' university.



## School of mechanical engineering

Part of a suite of engineering buildings along Woodhouse Lane.





Photo: Paul Martin Baxter

city and the University have identified the need to improve legibility of routes through campus by using some of this open space and creating gateways into the University. There are plans to create more intuitive routes in and through campus by weaving together its various elements, and to fill in those gaps that the aborted Chamberlin plan left behind.

The SDF answers the needs of a twenty-first century university. With 30,500 students, 8,800 staff and countless visitors navigating distinct campus districts, the University is unquestionably a small town surrounded by the bustling conurbation of Leeds.

But, as its name, satellite locations and Headingley residents attest, the University is also a vital part of the city. The University spreads out into Leeds, but the campus can be daunting to its neighbours.

The new development will welcome visitors into the campus along clearly defined routes running east to west along University Road (beside the Baines Wing) and immediately south of the EC Stoner building, a Chamberlin-left open space that is currently gravel and used mainly for parking cars.

These routes will take the pedestrian through new clearly delineated public spaces. University Square, outside the Student Union, is to be remodelled, further integrating the much-loved cherry trees and ironmonger's gates, but knocking down walls, opening up grass and creating a direct line of sight from the Union steps (to be replaced) to the Great Hall.

The redevelopment of Charles Morris Hall is already underway, offering not only hundreds more top-end student flats, but



Work is underway on the new swimming pool and fitness centre

also an Oxbridge-style courtyard which forms part of a thoroughfare from University Square out into the relatively new Western campus (the site of the Leeds Grammar School until 1997), across Clarendon Road. On the way there, the walker will encounter a Georgian-style square in keeping with the elegant houses around Lyddon Terrace, adjacent to a rebuilt nursery, in an area that is currently half car park, half wasteland. Thus the legibility of route extends right from the business school and future law school in the campus's far west across to the Parkinson building and south to the Ring Road. Just, in fact, as Chamberlin intended.

Chamberlin's most radical, or heretical, proposal was for the University's main entrance. It involved the demolition of the Parkinson steps and the re-routing of Woodhouse Lane to make way for acres of woodland housing a residence for the Vice-Chancellor. The new plans keep the popular Parkinson steps, but the long-neglected pedestrian gateway will be tidied up with a welcoming structure between the Parkinson and Michael Sadler buildings, along with a redesigned security booth standing, as it happens, very close to the site of an old toll booth on a turnpike that became Woodhouse Lane.

At this entrance a glance around reveals much of the University's history. Victorian terraces, Chamberlin's EC Stoner building, the brand new Ziff building and Lanchester's Michael Sadler building fill the landscape, with the promise of the red-brick splendour of the Baines Wing just through the gate. It is fitting that here a new entrance to the University will announce what awaits beyond: a campus built on ambition with even greater plans for the future. ❶

## Recent developments

The period immediately following the Chamberlin plan brought little in the way of large-scale building plans of the type the University had seen in the past.

You could call it a period of hibernation, but it ended in the late 1990s as work began on the far western part of the campus, on land previously owned by Leeds Grammar School adjacent to Clarendon Road. The old school building was converted with impressive attention to detail for the business school, integrating some strikingly modern glasswork into the old stone of the original structure. Inside the masonry is partly exposed, in a building housing state-of-the-art teaching and student facilities.

Next door is the barrel-shaped Charles Thackrah building, raised on little sci-fi legs. Both these buildings are finished to high specifications and bode well for the new plan. Both also back onto the old grammar school playing fields, the opposite sides of which will see the new law building and another building, according to the new plan. The field itself will be landscaped, offering a large open space bordered with top-level architecture right out on the western perimeter of the campus.

Other buildings completed in recent years include the Leeds Institute of Genetics, Health and Therapeutics (LIGHT), to the south, and the Wellcome Trust Brenner building, located at St James's University Hospital.

Back on the campus, stage@leeds, a state-of-the-art home for the school of performance and cultural industries behind the Union, was opened to acclaim in 2007. It houses a theatre, as well as teaching space, in a box-like building with a sleek black and grey tessellated finish that breaks in the centre for a glass entrance hall. It won the New Building Award in the 2009 Leeds Architectural Awards.



The LIGHT building

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## The latest from Leeds

### University news from on and off the campus



### Gryphon Centre now officially open

Leeds' most recent sports development was officially opened by the Vice-Chancellor in April. The centre, named after the highest sporting achievement a student can win, will be home to the University's netball, volleyball, badminton and squash teams.

Photo: Press Association



Anthony Tsui is made an MBE by the Queen at Buckingham Palace

### Research Assessment success

The 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) has confirmed Leeds as one of the UK's top research-intensive universities. With more than half our schools ranked top 10 in the country – including electronic and electrical engineering, Italian, and education – and 61 per cent of our research deemed 'world leading' (4\*) or 'internationally excellent' (3\*), Leeds is now ranked fourteenth for the quality of research, up twelve places from the 2001 RAE. The University has also maintained its position of eighth for 'research power' – a measure of the combined quality and volume of our submissions.

### Leeds: Innovation City

A new development led by the University of Leeds aims to help businesses innovate and be more competitive in the face of the global recession and to further accelerate the city's reputation as a centre for enterprise and innovation. The £65 million "Innovation City Leeds" project will include a £30 million building and bio-incubator, constructed on campus. Forecasts predict it could create over 1,000 new jobs, 450 new businesses and bring in £29 million of investment. If approved, construction will begin in the autumn and be complete by 2011.

## Honoured

Leeds academics and alumni recognised in the Queen's New Year Honours list:

- Professor Richard Williams, pro-vice chancellor for enterprise, knowledge transfer and international strategy: OBE for services to science and engineering
- Dr Kuldip Bhari, lead midwife for education at the school of healthcare: OBE for services to healthcare and to the community in Leeds
- Douglas Caster (Electrical and Electronic Engineering 1975): CBE for services to the defence industry
- William Clift (Med 1997): MBE for voluntary services to the community in Castleford and Wakefield
- John Coughlan (English and Art History 1982): CBE for services to local government
- Geoffrey Kamil (Law 1965): CBE for services to the administration of justice
- Michael Norton (Civil Engineering 1973): MBE for services to the water industry and to international trade
- Rosalind Savill (English and Fine Art 1972): DBE for services to the arts
- Anthony Tsui (MA Sociology of Communication 1972): MBE for services to science and UK-Hong Kong relations

## New home for opera in Leeds

As part of a £32 million restoration of Leeds Grand Theatre, the beautifully restored Howard Assembly Room opened in January 2009 to provide a permanent home for Opera North.

The Grade II listed Victorian building has been converted into a 350-seat education, rehearsal and performing venue where Opera North can nurture young talent. The centre will also enable the company to carry out imaginative research and teaching with the University and, as part of the University's DARE partnership with Opera North ([www.dareyou.org.uk](http://www.dareyou.org.uk)), placements and internships will give Leeds students hands-on experience of life at the heart of a working opera company – public relations, arts administration, education, stage management, marketing and development. The Howard Assembly Room, named in recognition of the support given by Dr Keith Howard (Mining 1952, MSc 1953) in transforming the venue, provides the Orchestra of Opera North, for first time, with a superb rehearsal space right at the heart of the Company.



## An expert says:

The University of Leeds owns and occupies a town-sized chunk, in fact a range of chunks, in a major city centre. Like any set of spaces that actually aspires and needs to be people-oriented – in other words, to be a 'place' – an inner city campus needs to apply the language of place-making to itself. This means legibility and connectivity; a hierarchy of streets, paths, and public spaces; a combination of variation and consistency; a sense of safety, comfort, delight and practicality; an awareness of the diverse needs of its users – old, young, students, maintenance workers, cars, bicycles, pedestrians. In Leeds' case it also needs to clearly relate to the rest of the city and its people. The University can use urban design and the design of buildings to connect itself to the grain of the city, to send a signal of openness and transparency, to undercut its own mystique by making visible what it is about – illumination, aspiration, learning. It needs to say: we're not apart, we're with you, we're part of this city's future.

Robert Powell, Executive Director, Beam

Beam is a Yorkshire-based arts, learning, and architecture centre dedicated to the imaginative understanding and improvement of the public realm. [www.beam.uk.net](http://www.beam.uk.net)

>> Chamberlin's 1960 development plan for the University precinct, was only partially completed. The buildings I stand among are mammoth, but they are tiny compared with what was intended. This new Brutalist world was to sweep from the Parkinson building in the east to Clarendon Road in the west, and down to the Ring Road in the south, demolishing pretty much anything that got in its way.

The Chamberlin Plan was born out of a frustration amongst the architectural and university communities that the post-war period had seen a succession of unimaginative, bland and generic new university building in the UK. This was in unflattering contrast with equivalent building programmes in the US and with innovative schools built here in Britain.

The previous thrust to Leeds' architectural vision had been the white Portland stone work of Lanchester & Lodge, the most famous example being the still iconic Parkinson building on Woodhouse Lane. The Lanchester programme had started in the late 1920s but, by the 1950s when the Parkinson tower was finally completed, it was ushered into an architectural world that was very different to that in which it had been conceived. Now was a time when Le Corbusier, champion of modern architecture and rational town

planning, had become a global celebrity. Meanwhile the traditional Parkinson tower represented the conservative tastes of British universities at the time.

Chamberlin, Powell and Bon were deliberately brought in to change all that. Their plan held a bullish disregard for the work of Lanchester & Lodge, for the red brick buildings by Waterhouse before them, and for the myriad Victorian terraces that filled in the gaps between the flagship buildings on the site. Rarely had a British university looked so readily to architecture's cutting

### Rarely had a British university looked so readily to architecture's cutting edge

community, in town planning, in university circles throughout the country, and even in the local press.

The defining characteristics of the Chamberlin Plan, aside from the singular style of the buildings, were its holistic approach to the campus and the scale of its unifying vision. The destruction of the old was partly out of disdain for its style, but also to create a coherent, people-friendly and purpose-built campus. It is thanks to Chamberlin that the Ring Road is sunken in a moat to allow easy pedestrian access over bridges between the city and the University. Car parking was to be peripheral, allowing the free movement of pedestrians through

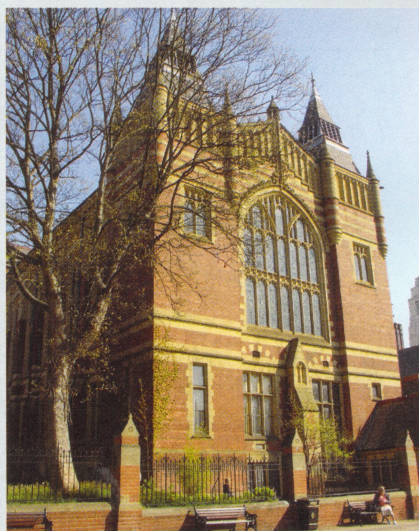
## Transforming the estate

## Red brick

Running along the north side of University Road are Leeds' most collegiate buildings. It is unsurprising that this part of the campus looks and feels most instantly like the quintessential university, given that it was designed by Alfred Waterhouse, the architect behind Balliol College, Oxford, and Pembroke, Caius and Girton at Cambridge. Leeds got him at the height of his powers at the time work was nearing completion on his masterpieces, Manchester Town Hall and the Natural History Museum. Thus began the University's commendable tradition of hiring the very best in the business for its major building programmes.

And so too began the tradition of using architecture to make a wider statement of vision. When Waterhouse was taken on in 1877 this was still the Yorkshire College (the letters YC are displayed within the Great Hall), putting up new buildings worthy of a great university by an architect previously employed by some of the most respected institutions in the world.

The buildings erected at the end of the nineteenth century were those of a college ready for university status, which it was granted in 1904. Waterhouse himself died in 1905 but his son Paul remained the University's architect until 1912.



the campus in a series of elevated walkways that sidestepped (or overstepped) the topography of the land.

The buildings themselves were designed to be flexible; you can still see beams sticking out at various ends of them (the Edward Boyle library and the Physics building, for example) that allowed for extension. Indeed the long building, a 'spine', that terminates at the Senior Common Room building (now the Staff Centre) was intended to continue right out towards Charles Morris Hall and beyond. The top floors of academic buildings were given over to student >>

## Transforming the estate

## Portland stone

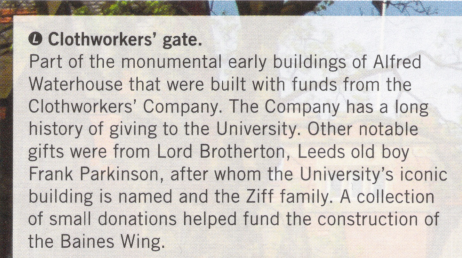
Lanchester & Lodge's work will be forever Leeds. The Parkinson building and its iconic tower are visible throughout the city and have been used in the University's promotional material for generations. Like Chamberlin, Powell & Bon's work, the Portland stone buildings were intended to stretch much further, and like Chamberlin, they weren't shy about making their mark.

A line of monumental Portland stone buildings was envisaged stretching west along the south side of University Road, culminating in a majestic student union with its back to the road, facing haughtily down the hill towards the Aire valley and the city below.

It is the Portland stone work on the campus, more than any other style or quarter, that suggests a university at odds with the city in which it sits. Monumental, even monolithic, in style, these are statement buildings, and the statement suggests a fortress.

Nonetheless, the buildings are impressively grand and occupy the main entrance area to the University, giving them prominent rights to its identity. A passer-by may doubt that Leeds is a 'red-brick' at all, given that Portland stone marks almost the entire border with Woodhouse Lane.

Like Chamberlin, Lanchester & Lodge met with difficulties, their tenure coinciding with an expensive war. The buildings took too long to go up, so by the time they were completed, the Modernists were chomping at the bit.



Clothworkers' gate. Part of the monumental early buildings of Alfred Waterhouse that were built with funds from the Clothworkers' Company. The Company has a long history of giving to the University. Other notable gifts were from Lord Brotherton. Leeds old boy Frank Parkinson, after whom the University's iconic building is named and the Ziff family. A collection of small donations helped fund the construction of the Baines Wing.



Photo: Paul Martin Baxter

>> accommodation, but departments could extend upwards when necessary and in fact students were happily living above the school of politics and international studies well into the twenty-first century.

Just as Lanchester & Lodge had suffered at the hands of fashion, so by the time Chamberlin's plan was well underway, the trend towards modernism had turned. Chamberlin met his match at Springfield House, still standing to the west of the University. It blocked his largest spine that was to extend towards Clarendon Road. By the time work started heading in this direction in the early 1970s, the local conservation movement had begun to pick up pace. An application to demolish Springfield House was rejected. Chamberlin appealed and lost and, when he died in 1978, his partners' contract was terminated.

Leeds City Council had agreed to take on responsibilities for landscaping the area when they granted planning permission for the plan, allowing the Chamberlin machine to plough onwards through the campus without having to tidy up or carry out cosmetic detailing. As a consequence, much of the landscaping was never really done, with the relatively recent exception of the stunning Chancellor's Court, once known as the Mathematics Court, adjacent to the Roger Stevens building. Together, the unfinished landscaping and abruptly ended building programme left a site that was far from the unified, self-contained campus envisaged by Chamberlin, but rather a further contribution to the collection of unrelated buildings that has been the University of Leeds throughout its history.

### The SDF is one of the biggest capital investment projects in British higher education

the Social Sciences block, picking up where those beams left off. In style, while it is radically different to anything else on the site, it nods an acknowledgement to Chamberlin in its scale, colouring and use of glass but it equally blends in well with Lanchester's Michael Sadler building (the arts block) across the road from it.

The building was supported by the Ziff family's philanthropy, an act which in itself is a continuation of a long tradition that begins with donations from the Clothworkers' Foundation for Yorkshire College buildings.

It is between the buildings that the new plan really comes into its own. Much of the land left behind by Chamberlin is now classified as protected open space. Both the

Open for more campus information... >

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